# UNITARIAN MONTHLY

An Organ for the propagation of the Doctrine of Unity in Religion, Theology, Philosophy and Society.

No. 236. (Vol. XX)—5. MAY, 1923. ONE PENNY.

REV. JOHN ELLIS (Stalybridge)
the New Minister for Evesham (see, p. 36).

M.B.

# Notes and News.

"One God, one law, one element,
And one far-off divine event,
To which the whole creation moves!"
—Tennyson.

THE UNITARIAN MONTHLY.
An Organ for the propagation of
THE DOCTRINE OF UNITY
In Religion, Theology, Philosophy and Society.

All comunications to the Editor, 4, Ashton Grove, South Shore, Blackpool.

The annual meeting of the Manchester District Association of Unitarian Churches was held at Cross Street Chapel, Manchester, on March 20th, preceded by a service conducted by Rev. H. H. Johnson, B.A., preacher, Rev. T. M. Falconer, of Bolton. Principal H. McLachlan, President, appealed for more fellowship and co-operation of the associated churches, and Rev. Percival Chalk, of London, spoke on Social Service.

An illuminated address was presented to Mr. Hugo Talbot, O.B.E., the retiring Town Clerk, at Brighton, at a meeting of the Town Council, March 22nd, in recognition of his services during 33 years of office, and at a public meeting which followed, the Mayor presiding, another illuminated address and 500 guineas were presented to him. Mr. Talbot is a member of a well-known Unitarian family.

At Belper the Unitarian minister, Rev. J. Carrara Davies, headed the poll at the recent triennial election of the Board of Guardians, and two members of his church were also among the successful candidates.

Mr. Will Hayes, lay minister, Chatham Unitarian Church, has given a lecture on "Great Books," to the inmates of Maidstone Gaol.

Special services at Coalville have drawn good attendances at the Unitarian Church, and aroused local interest.

At Coventry our Great Meeting has celebrated its 261st anniversary, March 25th, assisted by the Coventry Male Voice Choir.

A three days' "Italian" Bazaar held by the Unitarians of Newchurch, March 17—19, realised over £719, which, added to £670 subscribed a few months ago, makes £1,390.

A Summer School for Teachers to be held at Watermillock, Astley Bridge, Bolton, August 10—18, is being arranged by the Northern Sunday School Federation.

The Stalybridge Bazaar, March 14—17, referred to elsewhere, aimed to realise £1,000, actually cleared over £1,500.

At the Whit-Week meetings Lord Robert Cecil is to be Essex Hall lecturer.

The British and Foreign Unitarian Association has proposed a Prize Essay Scheme on "The Truth and Value of the Unitarian Religion," and has under consideration "A Unitarian Association Lectures' Board," and the Rev. W. H. Drummond is being sent out on a missionary visit to India.

Dr. Charles W. Eliot, formerly President of Harvard University, U.S.A., and a well-known Unitarian, has entered upon his 90th year in good health and vigour.

Mr. Alfred Nixon, F.C.A., of the Sale Unitarian Church, has just retired from his post as Principal of the Manchester High School of Commerce after 33 years' service in that position.

RECEIVED: "The Divinity of Christ in the New Testament," by J. Herbert Williams, 5s. net, John Murray, Albemarle Street, London, W. Notice in next issue.

The Easter Conference of Unitarian Lay Preachers held at Manchester College, Oxford, proved a great success.

Memorial windows were unveiled and dedicated at the Old Meeting Church, Birmingham, March 18th, to commemorate the ministry of the late Rev. Joseph Wood, 1884—1912.

The 63rd annual meeting of the N. & E. Lancashire Unitarian Mission (Association of Churches) was held at Accrington, March 24, and was well attended.

The annual meeting of the Northern Sunday School Federation was held on Good Friday at Rochdale; Rev. John Ellis was preacher. The President, Dr. George Jessel, said that our young people ought to be able to explain why they are Unitarians. There was a large gathering of people, and the proceedings were enthusiastic and successful.

The Huddersfield Unitarian Sale of Work, March 21st and 24th, realised £200, and another by the Middlesbrough Unitarians cleared over £108.

Rev. Hy. Williamson, Dundee, has been prime mover in establishing Sunday evening schools for children to keep them off the streets during the winter months. About 800 children have attended during the recent winter, and the session ended during Easter week. Some of the public school buildings of Dundee are used for this movement.

At the quarterly meeting of the Provincial Assembly of London and S.-E. Counties, held at Lindsey Hall, Kensington, Rev. J. H. Weatherall, M.A., gave an able address on "Prayer and Public Worship," Monday, April 9th.

The Ulster Unitarian Christian Association, at its annual meeting in Belfast, April 9th, reported a considerable public interest aroused by the defence of Unitarianism against Orthodox attack. A Declaration of Unitarian Principles has been in great demand, having been reprinted three times, and there has been a great increase in the demand for Unitarian literature at the Unitarian Depository.

The quarterly meetings of the S. Wales Unitarian Association were held at Capelybryn, Cardiganshire, April 4th and 5th. There were six preachers and largely-attended services.

Rev. J. Edwin Odgers, M.A., D.D., reached his 80th birthday on April 14th. Seventy-six of his former Divinity students signed a birthday letter of appreciation and good wishes, which was conveyed to him.

Meetings held at Essex Hall, April 4th and 5th, to consider the possibility of forming a "Young People's Religious League" on a basis broad enough for Unitarians, resulted in such a League being founded, with Miss E. D. Scott as acting secretary, and Rev. Rosalind Lee as acting treasurer. Membership open to Unitarians between the ages of 16 and 35 at a minimum subscription of 1s. 6d.

The annual meeting of the London District Unitarian Society was held at Essex Hall, April 11th. It was decided to issue an appeal for £2,000.

A Bazaar at Sheffield Unity, April 12—14, realised £885.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—Rev. Arthur Golland, M.A., has concluded his ministry at Bell Street Mission, London, and received farewell presentations on his removal to Ansdell, where he has entered upon his new charge; Rev. and Mrs. W. G. Topping had farewell presentations at Coseley, March 28th, and received public welcome at Stamford Street, London, April 12th; Rev. Arnold H. Lewis, B.D., has accepted appointment to the Hull Unitarian Church and resigned at Unity Church, Bolton; Rev. J. Jellie, B.A., has accepted appointment to the Timaru Unitarian Church, New Zealand.

## HOW TO LIVE.

To live as gently as I can;
To be, no matter where, a man;
To take what comes of good or ill,
And cling to faith and honour still;
To do my best, and let that stand
The record of my brain and hand;
And then should failure come to me,
Still work and hope for victory.

To have no secret place wherein
I stoop unseen to shame or sin;
To be the same when I'm alone
As when my every deed is known;
To live undaunted, unafraid
Of any step that I have made;
To be without pretence or sham
Exactly what men think I am.

To leave some simple mark behind
To keep my having lived in mind;
If enmity to aught I show,
To be an honest, generous foe,
To play my little part, not whine,
That greater honours are not mine.
This I believe is all I need,
For my philosophy and creed.

—Edgar A. Guest.

# Church Propaganda.

By the Rev. WILLIAM C. HALL, M.A.

THE title of this paper is a wide term. Primarily it suggests work undertaken by our churches to acquaint outsiders with our principles and beliefs, such as courses of sermons and lectures, the distribution of leaflets setting forth Unitarianism in different aspects, etc. It is good so to instruct others or to provide for them means of information. But this kind of work should not be left to ministers and a small body of recognised lecturers and writers. What we need to-day, probably more than at any other time, is that the members of our congregations should be educated in our denominational literature, in order that they themselves may be able to give a reason, indeed, many reasons, for the faith that is in them, and may directly tell all inquirers why our churches are and what they exist to promote.

It is pathetic that our congregations make so little demand on the publishing departments of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association and the Sunday School Association. Books are written by some of our ablest men with the express intention of serving our people as a whole, but I gather that very few of these reach the majority of our congregations. How many of our publications run into second editions? I judge from our catalogues that not a few of our books continue to be announced not because they are in great demand, but because their first editions are not exhausted. Personally, I should like to see a published report of the number of copies of various works printed and their sales, say, during twelve months. It would probably show that our denominational literature does not get the reading it deserves, and that many of our best books are shamefully neglected by our people.

I want to suggest to our congregations and schools that it is the duty of each to see that at least one copy of all our denominational publications is placed in the church and school library, and that an effort is made to get it extensively read and discussed. When, about sixteen years of age, I became a Unitarian, what in connection with the little chapel at Boston struck me most was the library. It convinced me that at some time the congregation consisted of men and women who were widely read both in general historical and religious literature and in the standard and current works of our denomination. That library, now scattered—may I say, despite my protests?—comprised about five hundred volumes; and I know that when it was in regular use that congregation stood for something very marked in the intellectual and religious life of the town. Now, every congregation of ours ought to stand as that congregation stood fifty years ago. Every church, besides being a place of the most spiritual worship, ought to be a centre of the highest religious education and educational influence.

I believe the suggestion made would work for good in many directions; and I feel strongly that since the war, in days when the beliefs of men and women are undergoing serious reshaping, our denomination is called more closely to meet the questions of the time and, through its congregations, to make clear to the public mind what are the principles and beliefs for which it stands and what is the kind of Christianity it wishes to promote. We have available literature which can so educate our people as to make them all well-equipped instructors in our faith. Cannot we secure for it a much wider circulation among ourselves?

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A successful Quarterly Conference of the Midland Sunday School Association was held at Fazeley Street School, Birmingham, April 14th, when it was reported that during the past year there had been an increase of scholars 15 per cent., and of teachers 20 per cent.

On April 12th there was a very successful welcome meeting to Rev. W. G. Topping at Stamford Street, Blackfriars, London.

Hurst Street Mission, at Waverley Road Church, Birmingham, at a successful bazaar £200 has been raised. It is now proposed to increase the Dawson Hall to three times its present size.

# Rev. John Ellis.

The Rev. John Ellis, whose ministry has just terminated at Stalybridge after ten years' effective service for the Canal Street Unitarian Church, on his removal to our Oat Street congregation at Evesham— has had a very effective career in our ministry. He was educated at the Unitarian Home Missionary College, Manchester, 1881-4, and at Owens (Now Manchester University), where he spent an extra year as Gaskell Scholar; has been minister at Blackley, 1885-93; Upperthorpe (now Unity Church), Sheffield, 1893-1902; Mansford Street, London, 1902-4; District Minister, Yorkshire Unitarian Union, 1904-9; Minister, Forest Gate and Stratford, London, 1909-12; Stalybridge, 1912-23.

We learn from the local Press that Mr. Ellis's work in that town has been very fruitful in good, practical results, and that it has been highly appreciated. The members of the congregation heard of his resignation with much regret. Many improvements have been effected in the Church and Sunday School. In 1915 the Jubilee of the foundation of the church was celebrated by the erection of a new chancel, and the installation of a new organ. He has taken an active part in denominational affairs as Secretary of the East Cheshire Christian Union, President of the North Cheshire Unitarian Sunday School Union, Treasurer of the Ministerial Fellowship, and as a member of the Committee of the Unitarian Home Missionary College. In public affairs of the town, he has served as a member of the Education Committee and of the Borough Free Libraries Committee.

During the war, Mr. Ellis spent three periods of service in France behind the firing line with the Young Men's Christian Association, finishing up in Germany. When the Stalybridge War Memorial was unveiled, he was allotted a part in the historic service as a recognition of his war service.

In the concluding weeks of his Stalybridge ministry he has had the gratification of steering a great bazaar effort to triumphant success, in which the strenuous efforts of his people have been rewarded by realising the magnificent result of over £1,500 for alterations, extensions, and repairs of Church and School buildings.

By removing to Evesham he goes to a congregation of ancient foundation, dating back to 1696. We wish him and his new church a prosperous and happy time together in the promotion of that rational Christianity to which they are mutually attached.

# Literature.

"Because Men are Not Stones," by Jabez T. Sunderland. The Beacon Press, 25, Beacon Street, Boston, Mass., U.S.A. By mail, 6s. 4d.

"The Adventurous Age," by Dorothy T. Pomeroy. Sunday School Association, Essex Hall, Essex Street, London, W.C. 2, 6d.

Mr. Sunderland's book is good and helpful reading. It deals with root questions in religion in a clear and attractive style which carries the reader along with continuous interest to the end. "Because men are not stones," they must ask questions: "Is there a God and if there is—Does He care?" The treatment of the subject is divided into eight sections:—(1) The Soul's Cry for God; (2) The Higher Conception of God; (3) God and Life's Deep Experiences; (4) God and Human Sorrow; (5) God and Great Calamities; (6) Robert Ingersoll's "I think if I had been God I could have made a better world"; (7) God Who Knows and Cares; (8) Working with God. Each part of the subject is dealt with in a devotional and rational spirit. The fine reasonableness of tone throughout is persuasive and convincing. Doubting and perplexed minds cannot read these pages without finding their doubts and perplexities cleared away. Light is poured on dark problems, and evidences from the facts of life are adduced imparting a grand, noble and inspiring faith to live by. Mr. Sunderland draws upon history and science in support of his affirmations. The Beacon Press of our American Unitarian Association has produced the book on excellent paper and clear type, and strongly bound. It will be prized either as a gift book, or for frequent reference after being read once. We heartily commend it.

Mrs. Pomeroy's essay is an Address delivered at the Summer School for Sunday School Teachers, at Manchester College, Oxford, 5th August, 1922. "The Adventurous Age" described is that of the Junior child in the Sunday School from 8 to 12 years old. Here teachers are told that "For the child the Unseen is peopled by strange beings. Make them heroic and beautiful. See that the ugly is touched with the magic which can make it lovely. Link all this with what the child would like to be. Assume the divinity which, indeed, is actually in his heart. Believe that the Kingdom of Love is there. Thus will the children piece up the world as they do the puzzle blocks, which are so meaningless until you get the whole picture." There is much valuable suggestion in what Mrs. Pomeroy says, and in this handy booklet form the address may be studied with no little advantage.

# Unitarian Worthies.

## 17.—EZRA ABBOT.

By Rev. ARTHUR W. FOX, M.A.

WITH that fine insolence which sometimes distinguished other members of his family, Dr. Arnold, of Rugby, once said "Unitarians had no scholars." Had he been less wrapped up in his own concerns, he would have known better. During his lifetime, both in England and America, there were scholars to the full as learned as their detractor. Amongst these was Ezra Abbot, who was born in Maine in 1819, and lived on till 1884. His mother learned Greek in order to be able to read the Greek Testament. With such an example before him her son became a most distinguished scholar. At first Assistant Librarian at Harvard for many years, though a layman he was appointed Professor of New Testament Greek and Criticism. It is most unusual for a layman to hold such a place, but Ezra Abbot proved himself to be in every way worthy of it. A little while before he had been selected both representatively and for his great scholarship to be one of the Revisers of the New Testament, which was going on in America concurrently with our own Revision in England, in which we were excellently represented by Dr. G. Vance Smith. He soon proved his worth as a Reviser, so that his fellow-Revisers, who were largely Trinitarian, learned to reverence his character and to respect his opinions. They found in him a scholar to be reckoned with in all disputed interpretations, and a man who lived out the simple Unitarian Christianity, which was the inspiration of his life.

Bishop Westcott, who edited the Greek Testament in conjunction with Dr. Hort, an edition which is recognised as one of the best products of modern scholarship both in England and abroad, recognised in Abbot a fel'ow-scholar of first-rate ability and sound judgment. In a like regard he was held by that greatest of continental New Testament scholars, Dr. Harnack. Harvard and Yale both recognised his high rank amongst contemporary scholars by conferring upon him their Doctorate. He had a special interest in the text of the Greek Testament. That is usually found a somewhat arid study by candidates for the ministry in all denominations, who sometimes fail to appreciate its importance. Nor does Scrivener's learned manual on the subject weaken the impression. But it was not so with Ezra Abbot. The more he studied the text, the more luminous did it become to him, the more deeply did he penetrate into the spiritual meaning of the words. In this supreme gift of scholarship he resembled no one more closely than Bishop Westcott, whose tastes were similar, yet remained a mystic to the end. He believed in the divine origin of Christianity, that Christ was, to borrow a phrase of that profound thinker, John Hamilton Thom, "God's ideal man," born into the world to show others what they ought to try to be.

Though a busy man, he found time to teach in the Sunday School, and spent much time and thought upon the preparation of his lessons. When he died his death was felt by the men of most creeds to be a national loss. Dr. Ezra Abbot is a standing illustration of the inspiring force of Unitarian Christianity to produce a man of singularly noble character, no less than an acute thinker and a great scholar. He spent much out of his comparatively small means upon his scholar's work, realising that he was thus serving the best interests of men and women. He died as he had lived, at peace with all men, looking forward to a completer life beyond the shadows.

For fuller information v. the sympathetic brief life in "Memorable Unitarians."

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DEATHS.—Mr H Thompson, Hathersage, Sheffield, March 5th, 86; Mr. John Dawson, Sheffield, March 17th, 81; Mrs. Wm. Aveyard, Reddish, Stockport, March 22nd, 70; Mr. Enoch H. Buckley, Stalybridge, March 22nd, 68; Mr. Joshua Cartwright, Bury, March 23rd; Mr. R. J. Toye, Ealing, London, March 21st, 41; Miss Christina O. Hume, Hove, Sussex, March 23rd; Rev. R. C. Dendy, Grange-over-Sands, March 30th, 88; Mr. John R. R. Wilson, Inspector of Mines, Newcastle-on-Tyne, April 3rd; Mr. T. Sloman, Southend-on-Sea, interred March 21st, 77; Mr. A. Lewis, son-in-law of late Rev. Chas. Wicksteed, March 23rd, 87; Mrs. Wm. Long, Windermere, March 30th, 80; Mrs. Hy. Green, Croydon, April 2nd, 82; Mr. G. E. Verity, of Leeds and Scarborough, died at Torquay, April 2nd, 66; Mrs. Turner, Stand, March 24th, 67; Mr. Hy. Allen, Stand, April 7th, 79; Mrs. Joseph Hibbert, Bredbury, April 5th, 71; Mrs. John Heywood, of Bolton, at Gur'ch, April 7th, 70; Mr. F. Bideleux, at Buenos Aires, April 7th, 50; Miss Louisa A. L. Ainsworth, Padiham, April 8th, 71; Mr. A. S. Wigley, Scarborough, only son of Mr. J. Wigley, of Pendleton, April 9th, 48; Mrs. J. S. Wainwright, Reddish, Stockport, April 11th, 78.

The National Conference Meetings in Manchester, April 16—20, are accounted a "record" in large attendances and in the high quality of the speaking. The Manchester friends excelled themselves in hospitality and in all the arrangements, including catering. The Rev. C. J. Street, M.A., LL.B., is the new President.

The local Ministry of Labour, Dundee, have sent an appreciative letter to the Rev. Hy. Williamson, in recognition of his efforts in organising girls' clubs and evening schools for children.

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At the Liverpool Domestic Mission Society annual meeting, Mill Street, April 26th, J. L. Paton, Esq., M.A., High Master of Manchester Grammar School, was the principal speaker.

The Committee of the Sunday School Association urges the Government to give facilities to the third reading of Lady Astor's Temperance Bill.

# National Unitarian Temperance Association.

Hon. Secretary: E. F. COWLIN, 53, Lewisham Park, London, S.E. 13.

A form has been sent to the correspondent of every Band of Hope or Junior Guild known to the Association, whether affiliated or not; it is an enquiry as to the work done during the past year, number of members, average attendance, etc. WE SHOULD BE GREATLY OBLIGED IF ALL SOCIETIES WHO DO NOT RECEIVE A FORM WOULD BE KIND ENOUGH TO FORWARD PARTICULARS TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS, AS WE ARE VERY DESIROUS OF COMPILING AS COMPLETE A LIST AS POSSIBLE. We are anxious that the Association should be of the utmost possible use to all Bands of Hope, junior and senior Guilds doing Temperance work, or to adult Temperance Societies, whether affiliated to us or not. The following circular, sent out some time ago, gives some idea of the ways in which the Association might help.

The annual meeting of the Association will be held at Essex Hall on the Friday in Whit-Week, as usual; business at 4-30 p.m., tea (with the Peace Fellowship) at 5-30, and public meeting at 6-30, when Mr. Guy Hayler and others will speak. The President, Rev. Dr. J. Lionel Tayler, will take the chair. E. F. C.

THE NATIONAL UNITARIAN TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION

Offers the following advantages to affiliated Bands of Hope, Guilds, Sunday Schools, etc.:

1. The loan of Lantern Slides, free of charge.
2. The free use of a Lending Library. Postage is paid on books sent to borrowers.
3. The N.U.T.A. Hymnal at reduced prices.
4. Pamphlets, leaflets, etc., free for distribution.
5. The supply of Speakers.
6. The loan of Pictorial diagrams to illustrate lessons to Band of Hope and Guild members.
7. Help in arranging Competitions—Recitation, Essay and Story writing, Singing, Handwork, etc., and awarding prizes.
8. Help in organising Aggregate meetings, indoors and out.

A NOTABLE CENTENARY.

MARCH 11th was the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Robert Rae, who was Secretary of the National Temperance League for forty years, serving under two distinguished presidents—Samuel Bowly, the Quaker Saint, and Dr. Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury. Born in Hamilton on the 11th March, 1823, Mr. Rae became an abstainer, along with David Livingstone, when he was 16, and quite early became a pioneer in specialised Temperance work. On coming to London in 1861, Mr. Rae inaugurated the progressive educational work which has characterised the National Temperance League ever since. He began Temperance teaching in the London schools, which spread to the Continent, the Colonies and the United States. He initiated operations in the Churches which led to the formation of the denominational societies, and he opened the Universities, Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral; the Metropolitan Tabernacle, the City Temple, and the Cathedrals, Parish Churches and leading Chapels throughout the country to the proclamation of Temperance truth. Mr. Rae induced the Medical Profession to institute organised inquiry on alcohol, secured the adhesion of Dr. B. W. Richardson, F.R.S., and issued the great medical manifesto of 1871. Under Mr. Rae's editorship the League's weekly, "The Temperance Record," was a powerful organ for forty years, and his "Medical Temperance Journal" was for twenty years greatly valued by the profession.

# The Unitarian Women's League.

By Miss E. JOHNSTONE.

This month the Triennial Conference of our Churches has been held in Manchester. On Tuesday the Rev. Nichol Cross read a paper on our "Joint Responsibilities for Church Life and Work." The meeting then divided into three sectional meetings, viz., the Ministers, the Laymen and Women's League. The following paragraph from the address was discussed by the women, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Currer Briggs:—

"I have nothing but praise for the manifold and devoted services rendered by the women of our congregations organised under the Women's League, or otherwise. It is alike notable and indispensable. My only counsel would be that as far as they can, they maintain and extend their outlook upon public questions, not only as particularly affecting the just status of women and rights of children, but the community in general. Problems of divorce reform, birth control, prostitution, sexual ethics, intemperance, are prominent and urgent, and require enlightened religious consideration, such as our Women's Leagues could give. Enlarged aims will tend to vitalise them."

After an hour the joint meeting was resumed,

and Mrs. Sydney Martineau acted as spokeswoman for the Women's League. She reported that first and foremost the women felt they must lay stress on the first object of the League—in the hope that it would create an atmosphere which would encourage its members to more active personal social service. They also claimed the right to a share in Church government and more lively interest in industrial questions, because they affect the lives of women and children. Other recommendations were made at the sectional meeting of women, on which Miss Brooke Hereford, as secretary, will doubtless report at headquarters.

Other reports followed from Mr. Hugh Rathbone, for the Laymen's League, and from the Rev. C. W. Townsend, of Bury, for the Minsters. The experiment was novel and most interesting, and proved a most successful innovation.

# For the Children.

By Rev. H. FISHER SHORT.

## MANY HAPPY RETURNS.

"It's Auntie's birthday to-day," said a small boy of eight to his tiny sister of four.

Auntie is the good angel who mothers them; their very own mother having gone on a long, lone journey.

"Then," responded the little woman, "I hope you will remember to be a good boy," adding, a moment later, "and not shout across the table."

. . . . .

That night, day having closed his big, bright eye, and the unseen hand of God having hung the sky with twinkling fairy lamps, Peter Pan flew by the open window into the bedroom of that small boy of eight.

"Hello, Dick" he cried, dancing a Fox-trot on the bed.

Dick rubbed his eyes and stared that funny stare which tells you are only half awake.

"Cheerio!" chuckled the visitor.

"Oh! it's you, Peter."

Though he had never seen him before, Dick knew him at once. You know why, don't you?

"Yes, it's me," laughed Peter Pan, caring more for cordiality than grammar.

"How's Wendy?" inquired Dick, stifling a yawn.

"You must come and see for yourself. It's her birthday, and you're invited to the party."

A birthday party! That did it. He sprang out of bed to dress, but quicker than lubricated lightning, his clothes put themselves on him, and, what was more, he found that he had got a pair of great, white wings.

"This way!" laughed Peter, sailing out of the window, followed by Dick, who, for a beginner, was a splendid flier.

Up and up, and up they went, till "this way" became the Milky Way.

On and on and on they flew in the wonderful star shine, and, at last, they reached the Land of Rosy Light, a garden bathed in a glow of fairy pink.

Dick drew a breath of sheerest delight, so lovely was everything. And the children! There seemed to be millions of them. And how they cheered when they saw Peter. Like Dick, they had never seen him before; but you can guess why they knew him, can't you?

Then the merriment began. A fairy band played a jolly tune that tickled everybody's feet and set them dancing. And Peter sprang up, and gave an amazing exhibition in flying. He flashed hither and thither in straight jerky lines like a giant dragon fly; he looped the loop, he gave them the jumps by imitating a tumbler pigeon; and, then, he rose so high that he looked no bigger than a gnat. All at once, he stopped his engines—so to speak—made a nose dive—so to say—and came down like a shot. Everybody screamed when he looked like crashing; but a sudden upward turn, and he flew along laughing and brushing their heads with his wings.

The next item on the programme was the feast. What a spread! And how those boys and girls tucked in! Had their mothers seen them they would have said things, I know.

Suddenly, a trumpet sounded, and as suddenly the tables vanished, and there, seated on a throne, smothered in roses, sat Wendy.

Stately as a queen and as gracious she stood up and said "Welcome, dear children, to the Land of Rosy Light," and a great shout went up "Many happy returns, Wendy!" Then they went forward with their gifts—all except poor Dick. He was empty-handed. But, you see, Peter didn't give him time to think.

Then a happy thought jumped into his head, and he went forward.

To his surprise, Wendy seemed to change into someone else.

"It's Auntie!" he cried.

Encouraged by her loving smile, he ran towards her and, as she threw her arms round him, he said "I'll remember, always, to be your good boy." And she knew he would keep his birthday promise.

## British and Foreign Unitarian Association.

## ANNIVERSARY MEETINGS,

**Tuesday Afternoon, May 22.**

Tea and Reception in the Upper Hall, Essex Hall 4-30 to 6 p.m. Religious Service at Rosslyn Hill Chapel, Hampstead, at 7-30 p.m. Preacher: Rev. LAWRENCE CLARE, of Birmingham.

**Wednesday, May 23.**

Annual Business Meeting at Essex Hall, 10-30 a.m., when The President, Mr. C. SYDNEY JONES, will take fhe Chair. Followed by a Conference on the work of the Association, when criticisms and suggestions by members are invited. Public Meetiug at Essex Hall, 7-30 p.m., when the President will take the Chair. Addresses will be given hy Rev. A. H. LEWIS, of Bolton. Rev. E. ROSALIND LEE, B.A., of Penmaen, Mr. G. C. ARMSTRONG, of London, and Dr. NORBERT F. CHAPEK, of Pragne, on "Our Opportunity."

**Thursday, May 24.**

Essex Hall, Lecture at 3 p.m., when the President will take the Chair. The Lecture will be delivered by the Rt. Hon. LORD ROBERT CECIL, K.C., M.P., on "The Moral Basis of the League of Nations." Admission **Only by Ticket,** which may be obtained by application to Dr. MELLONE, Essex Hall.

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## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C. 2.

## — ANNUAL MEETING —

THURSDAY, MAY 24th, 1923, 10 a.m.

President, Dr. George Jessel, M.A., D.P.H.

Speaker, MISS MARGARET DRUMMOND, M.A. (Edinburgh).

"THE RELIGION OF THE ADOLESCENT."

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Just Published.

## THE STATE MURDER OF JOHN GRIFFITHS — and THE ILFORD EXECUTIONS. —

or CAPITAL PUNISHMENT CONDEMNED.

An Appeal to Humanity and to the Churches,

by H. BODELL SMITH.

The C. W. Daniel Co., 3, Tudor St., London, E.C. 4.
One Shilling net, 1s. 1d. post free.

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## Blackfriars Mission & Stamford-st. Chapel.

## CENTENARY BAZAAR

## To Raise £1,000

will be held on **MAY 11th and 12th** at the Church.
President: **Mrs. C. F. PEARSON**; Vice-Pres.: **Mrs. SYDNEY MARTINEAU**.
Secretaries: Miss Lillie Martineau and Mrs. A. A. Tayler
Contributions in money and goods are urgently needed and may be sent to Miss Dorothy Fry, c/o The Mission, 51 Stamford-st., London, S.E. 1.

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Rev. H. BODELL SMITH,
4, Ashton Grove, Crystal Road, Blackpool, is at liberty to take Sunday Engagements.

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## National Unitarian . . . . . TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.

## THE ANNUAL MEETING

Will be held on

FRIDAY, MAY 25th, 1923.

At Essex Hall, London.

Chairman: The President, Rev. Dr. J. L. Tayler.

Business Meeting, 4-30 p.m.
Tea (with the Peace Fellowship) 5-30.
Public Meeting, 6-30, when Mr. Guy Hayler, and others will speak

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## BRITISH LEAGUE OF UNITARIAN and OTHER LIBERAL CHRISTIAN WOMEN.

ESSEX HALL, ESSEX STREET, LONDON, W.C. 2.

## : The Annual Meeting :

will be held on

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23rd, at 3 o'clock.

The President, Mrs. CURRER-BRIGGS, in the Chair.

OPENING SERVICE conducted by Mrs. C. H. Thompson (Manchester College), followed by Short Address on "The —— Young People's Religious Union in America." ——

Speakers:—MADAM CHAPEK, (Prague)
The Rev. E. R. LEE, etc.

ALL FRIENDS CORDIALLY INVITED.

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